Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, Wayne Marsh's musical interest began at the age of nine when his parents purchased his first trumpet and he later joined the school band. At the age of 14, while attending high school, he started playing for public dances. His first dance job was with the Elmer Kaiser Orchestra and he earned fifty cents for the night; and,

WHEREAS, When he was a junior at Aberdeen Central High School he was a member of a trumpet trio that placed first in the state contest. He was a member of the Wanderers, the first high school dance band at Aberdeen Central. Before graduating, he was a member of the school band, the school dance band, and also performed weekends with the Dean Deuel Band and Bill Klitz Sr. and his Rhythmaires; and,

WHEREAS, A week following high school graduation, Wayne left Aberdeen to join the Carl Colby Orchestra from Fargo, North Dakota, as a trumpet player and ballad singer. They traveled the Midwest area by bus, performing four to six nights a week; and,

WHEREAS, A year later, he moved to Fargo and played with several bands that entertained in local night clubs. Several years later, he met a group from Chicago, The Advocates of Swing, and moved to Chicago. With this quartet, he was able to play in most of the best night clubs of Chicago; and,

WHEREAS, While playing with the Advocates of Swing, Lawrence Welk who, at the time, was playing at the Trianon Ballroom in Chicago, heard him play and asked him to join the band, which Wayne did a few months later; and,

WHEREAS, The Welk Orchestra performed nine months of the year at the Trianon Ballroom and then went on tour during the summer months. The highlights of the two years with the Welk group was performing a vocal duet at the Capitol Theatre in New York with the Champagne Lady, on the Ralph Edwards Truth or Consequences Show, cutting a record that was No. 2 on the Billboard for eighteen weeks, and being able to be a member of a very professional eighteen-piece band; and,

WHEREAS, When the Welk Orchestra decided to do more traveling, Wayne chose to remain in Chicago and went back to playing in night clubs, because it was more profitable and did not involve traveling. After several years he started a group called The Elecronicates; and,

WHEREAS, With the increasing popularity of television, night clubs saw their business fall and, therefore, entertainment for many became a piano bar. At this time, Wayne decided to return to Aberdeen where he worked for Taylor Music and continued playing for dances on weekends; and,

WHEREAS, Some of the local bands he worked with over the years include: The Ray Palmer Dance Band, John Taylor Orchestra, Norm's Combo, John Cacavas Band, Les Lang Band, Bill Jark Band, Audrey Arntz Trio, Harry Eisele Band, and for the past 12 years with Mike & The Playboys. Wayne gave an estimated 5000 performances during his career:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 13, 1989, as

WAYNE MARSH DAY

in South Dakota, and I congratulate him on being chosen as a 1989 inductee into the D.M.A. Hall of Fame.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventh Day of April, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Nine

GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

JOYCE HAZELTINE, SECRETARY OF STATE